

SPECIAL COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MAY 7, 2011 6:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

The Special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middletown was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Monday, May 7, 2012 at 6 p.m.

Present

Deputy Mayor Robert P. Santangelo, Council Members Thomas J. Serra, Ronald P. Klattenberg, Gerald E. Daley, Hope P. Kasper, Philip J. Pessina, Joseph E. Bibisi, Linda Salafia, and Deborah A. Kleckowski, Corporation Counsel Daniel B. Ryan, Sergeant-at-Arms Acting Chief of Police McKenna, and Council Clerk Marie O. Norwood.

Absent

Mayor Daniel T. Drew, Council Members Mary A. Bartolotta, Grady L. Faulkner, Jr., Todd G. Berch, and Corporation Counsel Daniel B. Ryan.

Also Present

Public Works Director Bill Russo, Finance Director Carl Erlacher, Director of IT William Oliver, Personnel Director Debra Milardo, Director of Health Joseph Havlicek, Parking Director Geen Thazhampallath, Human Relations Director Faith Jackson, Planning, Conservation, and Development Director William Warner, Water and Sewer Director Guy Russo, Fire Chief Gary Ouellette, Acting City Attorney Timothy Lynch, City and Town Clerk Sandra Driska, Tax Assessor Damon Braasch, Central Communications Director Wayne Bartolotta, Emergency Management Director Bruce Driska, and Acting Chief of Police William McKenna, Joseph Samolis and Stephan Allison and 6 members of the public.

Meeting Called to Order

The Acting Chair calls the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and asks Councilman Pessina to lead the public in the pledge of Allegiance.

Call of Meeting Read

The Call of the meeting is read and accepted. The Deputy Mayor declares this call a legal call and the meeting a legal meeting.

Workshop Opens

The Acting Chair opens Questions to Directors workshop at 6:05 p.m.

Councilman Daley has questions on the resolution for the Chief's appointment and asks for the Personnel Director. He states he knows what you are trying to achieve and it is awkwardly worded. He states in the event of separation of service, he will be considered a 20 year employee; I really think that is what you are trying to accomplish, protection and not lose his pension. Ms Milardo responds correct. Councilman Daley states I don't think the effective upon swearing in is necessary. I would say upon involuntary separation of service, you have 20 years. Ms Milardo states you are right about the wordiness and it can be simplified and say in the event of an involuntary separation and for his own free will, it is the years he has earned. It could be a serious health issue or medical trauma and I do agree with you and it can be amended.

Point of Order

Acting Chair Santangelo asks if they could please speak up.

Councilman Daley states if we were to take this phrase, he believes he can offer an amendment to see if it meets the needs. Ms Milardo states that is fine so long as you leave in that personal leave and sick time rolls over and that would achieve everyone's goal. Councilman Daley asks the Chief if that is acceptable to him. He responds that is basically what he asked for. Councilman Daley states if something unforeseen happens you get the 20 years and not you get the 20 years you can do anything. He states he will amend it.

Councilman Klattenberg is recognized and would like to hear from emergency management. He has two matters to ask about. At Finance and Government Operations, we discussed a memo you prepared for \$19,032 and in the packet is request for \$21,000. The differential is the 10% reserve and if the reserve would be approved to be released, you would only need the \$19,032. Mr. Driska comes forward. Councilman Klattenberg states the amount for the gasoline generator and he received a call from Channel three, this appropriation and he said it should be discussed by the Mayor's office and then he sees on T.V. someone from emergency management with their face not on TV and talking about this matter. Mr. Driska says the beginning part of the question, he doesn't believe that is what they were talking about and whomever spoke on the news, the Mayor's office spoke with that person and he was not aware of it until after it

occurred. It is appropriate the discussion is through the Mayor. Mr. Driska states at this point the request is \$19, 032 provided you vote on releasing the reserve of \$3, 553.

Councilman Pessina asks to speak to Mr. Driska and wanted to be clear, you were not part of the Channel 3 expose. Mr. Driska states he was not aware of it. Councilman Pessina asks if he notified the Public Safety chairman. Mr. Driska responds he did not contact the public safely chair and he spoke to the Mayor. He did not see it. Councilman Pessina states a lot of information came out and he is not sure that was the appropriate place for that. A call to public safety would have been appropriate. There is a protocol. Mr. Driska states he did not hear it and was not aware of it. Councilman Serra states there were a lot of accusations made. Mr. Driska responds he did not see it and doesn't know the concept and comments were made about the amount budgeted. Councilman Serra asks that he make them aware of it. Mr. Driska states he had several conversations about it with the Mayor and it may be shared. Councilman Pessina asks before our next meeting with the information that was stated over the air, can you provide a synopsis and clarify with the Mayor's office.

Councilman Klattenberg asks for the Director of Finance and Carl Erlacher comes forward. Councilman Klattenberg states on 12-7, for \$85,000 for LoCIP for Palmer Field and he wanted to reiterate at Finance and Government, we adjusted this request so some of the funds would come from the Palmer Field Improvement fund. Mr. Erlacher states we approved the funding including the Palmer Field Improvement fund and requested that the Park and Recreation Committee take the information up at their next meeting and based it contingent on that. Councilman Klattenberg states he thought we were going to address it here in the resolution. Mr. Erlacher states he is not sure that the commission met. He states I would not act on it and you would have to amend it and see if they met and approved your recommendation.

Councilman Serra asks for the Park and Recreation Director, Raymond Santostefano. He asks has it been through the commission and adopted. Mr. Santostefano states they met on Thursday and they voted on this resolution and they would not amend it because we would move forward with the concession stand at a later date. Councilman Klattenberg states maybe I misunderstood; we were not asking for the splitting of the funds, our vote was contingent on Park and Recreation Committee having approved the \$85,000, we would do it here. Mr. Santostefano states it was voted on and passed unanimously. Councilman Klattenberg states that is for us to decide to use the Palmer Field Improvement fund. Councilman Serra asks through the chair, this needs to be set properly relative to \$57,000 from the Palmer Field Improvement Fund and \$28,000 from LoCIP funds.

Workshop Closes

The Acting Chair asks if there are further questions. Seeing none, he closes the workshop at 6:24 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn

Councilman Klattenberg moves to adjourn and is seconded by Councilwoman Kasper. The chair calls for the vote and it is unanimous to approve. The Chair declares the meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

ATTEST:

MARIE O NORWOOD Common Council Clerk